

IN THE CLAIMS

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A deformable mat formed of at least one web comprising:
at least one reinforcing substance and at least one thermoplastic substance, these
substances being in a form of a member selected from at least one continuous yarn, chopped
yarns and combinations thereof, said at least one reinforcing substance and said at least one
thermoplastic substance being bonded together such that the mat has an elongation at break in
all directions of at least 50%, ~~said mat being in an uncompressed state,~~
wherein said mat has a weight per unit area from 1500 to 3000 g/m².

18. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 17, wherein the mat has an
elongation at break in all directions from 100% to 150%.

19. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 17, wherein the yarns comprise
filaments of a reinforcing substance and filaments of a thermoplastic substance.

20. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 19, wherein the yarns comprise
at least 50% by weight of commingled yarns.

21. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 20, wherein the commingled
yarns consist of glass filaments and filaments of one or more thermoplastic organic
substance.

22. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 17, wherein said at least one
reinforcing substance represents at least 10% by weight of said mat.

23. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 17, wherein said mat includes
chopped yarns, said chopped yarns having a length less than 100 mm.

24. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 17, having a porosity ranging
from 65 to 80%.

25.-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A deformable mat comprising:
at least one reinforcement substance in the form of a first yarn, said first yarn consisting of reinforcement fibers; and
at least one thermoplastic substance in the form of a second yarn, said second yarn consisting of thermoplastic fibers,
wherein said reinforcement substance and thermoplastic substance are stitch bonded by a binding thread that is finer than said yarn of said at least one reinforcement substance and said yarn of said at least one thermoplastic substance,
~~wherein said mat possesses sufficient flexibility to be deposited inside a mold without forming pleats, and~~
wherein said mat has a porosity ranging from 65 to 80%; and
wherein said mat is formed of said first and said second yarns.

35. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 34, wherein said binding thread has a linear density between 40 and 300 dtex and is selected from a reinforcing substance and a thermoplastic organic substance.

36. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 34, wherein said at least one reinforcement substance and said at least one thermoplastic substance are in the form of a member selected from chopped yarns, continuous yarns and combinations thereof.

37. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 36, wherein said deformable mat contains at least one continuous yarn in the form of superposed loops.

38. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 36, wherein said mat has an elongation at break in all directions from 100 to 150%.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 34, wherein said at least one reinforcing substance represents from 30 to 85% by weight of said mat.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) A deformable mat comprising:
a first yarn including a reinforcing substance; and
a second yarn including a thermoplastic substance, ~~said first and second yarn being stitch bonded by a binding thread,~~
wherein said first and second yarns are a combination of ~~are selected from~~ chopped yarns and ~~continuous yarns,~~
wherein said mat is formed of said first and second yarns and combinations thereof,
and
~~wherein said first and second yarns include at least 50% by weight commingled yarns consisting of reinforcing filaments and thermoplastic organic filaments,~~
~~wherein said mat possesses sufficient flexibility to be deposited inside a mold without forming pleats, and~~
~~wherein said mat has a porosity ranging from 65 to 80%.~~

43. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said at least one reinforcing substance represents from 30 to 85% by weight of said mat.

44. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said deformable mat contains at least one continuous yarn in the form of superposed loops.

45.-47. (Canceled)

48. (New) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said mat has a porosity from 65 to 80%.

49. (New) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said first yarn and said second yarn are bonded by exposure to pressurized water jets.

50. (New) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said first yarn and said second yarn are bonded by corona discharge.

51. (New) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said first yarn and said second yarn are bonded by needle punching.

52. (New) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said first yarn and said second yarn are bonded by an adhesive.

53. (New) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said mat has a weight per unit area from 1500 to 3000 g/m².

54. (New) The deformable mat of claim 34, wherein said first and second yarns are stitch bonded by a yarn having a linear density between 40 and 300 dtex.